

# Maurice Hinchey NEWS

## 26<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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### **SULLIVAN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT AWARDED \$389,625 IN "COPS" GRANTS**

WASHINGTON - U.S. Representative Maurice Hinchey (NY-26) today announced that the Sullivan County Sheriff's Department has been awarded two Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) grants totaling \$389,625. One of the grants will allow the department to hire three additional officers, while the other will go toward the purchase of timesaving equipment.

"Two weeks ago I held a press conference to point out the importance of saving this program," said Hinchey. "Here is yet another example of how COPS is helping law enforcement in our area. Sheriff Hogue and his department should be commended for taking advantage of the program. For my part, I will continue to work on saving and expanding COPS."

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Department has been awarded a COPS Universal Hiring Program (UHP) grant of \$225,000 and a Making Officer Redeployment Effective (MORE) grant worth \$164,625. The UHP grant will pay for a portion of the salary and benefits of three new officers over a period of three years. The MORE grant will go toward equipment that will free up more officers to be out in the community.

"I'm very grateful for this federal assistance and for Congressman Hinchey's strong support of the COPS program," said Sullivan County Sheriff Dan Hogue. "Putting more officers into the community is key to fighting crime and that's what this program helps us to do."

On August 14 Hinchey held a press conference criticizing the Bush Administration for proposing the elimination of the hiring facet of the COPS program. Hinchey has pledged to fight that proposal and is a cosponsor of a bill that would expand the COPS program.